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Laiuse Romani language

Laiuse Romani was a Romani variety spoken in Estonia. It was a mixed language based on Romani and Estonian.[2]

The Romani people first appeared in Estonia in the 17th century. According to rumors, they were first part of Swedish King Charles XII's Romani orchestra which he, after spending a winter in Laiuse, left behind. In 1841 all 44 Estonian Romani were collected and settled around Laiuse Parish. Their main stop was Raaduvere village, but they also lived in Rakvere, Jõgeva and its precincts. Before the Second World War there were 60 Romani in Laiuse.[3] Laiuse Romani became extinct in the German occupation, when all its speakers were killed by the Nazis during the Porajmos.[2][4]

Laiuse Romani	
Native to	Estonia
Extinct	ca. 1940
Language family	mixed Romani–Estonian
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	*None* (`mis`)
Glottolog	`esto1257 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/esto1257)`[1]

Linguistic features

Laiuse Romani shares a number of linguistic features with Finnish Kalo,[4] such as palatalization of velar consonants before front vowels[5] and initial devoicing.[6]

References

1. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Lajenge Roma" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/esto1257). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
2. Smith, p. 365.
3. "Laiuse mustlased" (http://www.eestigiid.ee/?SCat=7&CatID=4&ItemID=1560) (in Estonian). eestigiid.ee. Retrieved 23 September 2011.
4. Matras, p. 10.
5. Matras, p. 49.
6. Matras, p. 54.

- Matras, Yaron (2002). *Romani: A Linguistic Introduction*. Cambridge University Press.
- Smith, Norval (1994). "An annotated list of creoles, pidgins, and mixed languages". In Jacque Arends, Pieter Muysken & Norval Smith (ed.). *Pidgins and Creoles*. John Benjamins.

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